

Amendments to the Claims:

1 (Currently amended): A method for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising:

accessing a client-side application to generate a client manipulative electronic document;

parsing an the text of the electronic document, by a persona menu application, for a person name, wherein the persona menu application is separate from the client-side application;

querying, by the persona menu application, passing the person name to at least one data source containing person-centric data to identify person-centric data associated with the person name;

at the at least one data source, obtaining, at the persona menu application, person-centric data associated with the person name from the at least one data source, wherein the data source is associated with a communication application for communicating with a user identified by the person name;

populating, in the client-side application, a data structure for the person name with the person-centric data obtained at from the at least one data source; and

providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document associated with the client-side application, wherein the graphical user interface includes action items for facilitating communication with the user identified by the person name according to the communication application associated with the at least one data source.

2 (Cancelled)

3 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby parsing an electronic document for a person name includes obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name.

4 (previously presented): The method of Claim 3, whereby obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name includes obtaining data associated with the person name for identifying the person name.

5 (original): The method of Claim 4, whereby obtaining unique identifying information associated with the person name includes obtaining an electronic mail address for the person name.

6 (previously presented): The method of Claim 3, further comprising:
when no unique identifying information is associated with the person name in the electronic document,
recognizing the person name from text or data in which the person name is included;
passing the recognized person name to a contacts database; and
at the contacts database, obtaining unique identifying information for the person name.

7 (previously presented): The method of Claim 3, further comprising passing the unique identifying information associated with the person name to at least one data source of person-centric data.

8 (previously presented): The method of Claim 7, whereby passing the unique identifying information associated with the person name to the at least one data source of person-centric data includes passing an electronic mail address to the at least one data source containing person-centric data.

9 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 1, whereby querying at least one data source ~~passing the person name to at least one data source containing person-centric data~~ includes passing the person name to the at least one data source via a persona menu application.

10 (Cancelled)

11 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 1[[10]], prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the person-centric data, returning the person-centric data associated with the person name from the at least one data source to the persona menu application.

12 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1, prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the person-centric data, building a data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the at least one data source.

13 (previously presented): The method of Claim 4, whereby when the at least one data source does not contain person-centric data matching unique identifying information associated with the person name, querying a contacts database for an alternate unique identifying information associated with the person name; and

passing the alternate unique identifying information associated with the person name to the at least one data source for obtaining person-centric data for an alternate electronic mail address.

14 (Cancelled)

15 (original): The method of Claim 1, prior to providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data, labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality.

16 (original): The method of Claim 15, further comprising providing an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user interface.

17 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes online/offline status for the person name.

18 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes free/busy status information for the person name.

19 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes office location information for the person name.

20 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes telephone numbers for the person name.

21 (original): The method of Claim 1, whereby the person-centric data includes information related to additional person names associated with the person name.

22 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1, whereby at least one data source includes a contacts database.

23 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1, whereby the at least one data source includes an instant messaging database.

24 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1, whereby the at least one data source includes a distributed computing environment directory services database.

25 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1, whereby the at least one data source includes a free/busy status database.

26 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium containing computer readable instructions which when executed by a computer perform a method for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising:

accessing a client-side application to generate a client manipulative electronic document;

parsing an the text of the electronic document, by a persona menu application, for an electronic mail address associated with a person name, wherein the persona menu application is separate from the client-side application;

quervyng, by the persona menu application, passing the electronic mail address to at least one data source containing person-centric data to identify person-centric data associated with the electronic mail address;

at the at least one data source, obtaining, at the persona menu application, person-centric data associated with the person name from the at least one data source, wherein the data source is associated with a communication application for communicating with a user identified by the person name;

populating, in the client-side application, a data structure for the person name with the person-centric data obtained at from the at least one data source;

labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality;

upon user selection of the labeled person name, providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document associated with the client-side application, wherein the graphical user interface includes action items for facilitating communication with the user identified by the person name according to the communication application associated with the at least one data source.

27 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, further comprising:

when no electronic mail address is available for the person name in the electronic document,

recognizing the person name from text or data in which the person name is included;

passing the recognized person name to a contacts database; and

at the contacts database, obtaining an electronic mail address for the person name.

28 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, whereby when the at least one data source does not contain person-centric data matching the electronic mail address, querying a contacts database for an alternate electronic mail address associated with the person name; and

passing the alternate electronic address associated with the person name to the at least one data source for obtaining person-centric data for the alternate electronic mail address.

29 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the person-centric data, building a data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the at least one data source.

30 (Cancelled)

31 (previously presented): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, prior to providing a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, further comprising:

obtaining at least one name-centric action for application to the person name; and
populating the data structure for the person name with the at least one name-centric action.

32 (original): The computer readable medium of Claim 31, further comprising providing an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user interface.

33 (original): The computer readable medium of Claim 26, whereby the person-centric data includes online/offline status for the person name.

34 (previously presented): A system for aggregating person-centric information for displaying in a user interface, comprising:

a computer operative to operate at least one application program module and to display at least one electronic document and graphical user interfaces;

an a client-side application program operative to receive, in an a client manipulative electronic document, at least one member of a group comprising; text and data;

a persona menu application program separate from the client-side application operative

to parse the electronic document for a-unique-identification an email address associated with a person name;

to recognize the person name from text or data in which the person name is included, when no electronic mail address is available for the person name in the electronic document;

to query a contacts database for an unique identification associated with the person name when the at least one data source does not contain person-centric data matching an electronic mail address;

to obtain a unique identification at the contacts database;

to pass the unique identification to at least one data source containing person-centric data, wherein the at least one data source is associated with a communication application for communication with a user identified by the person name;

to parse the at least one data source for obtaining person-centric data associated with the person name;

to populate, in the client-side application, a data structure for the person name with the person-centric data obtained at from the at least one data source;

to labeling the person name in the electronic document to indicate available functionality; and

to provide a graphical user interface for displaying the person-centric data adjacent to the person name in the electronic document, upon user selection of the labeled person name, wherein the graphical user interface includes action items for facilitating communication with the user identified by the person name according to the communication application associated with the at least one data source.

35-36 (Cancelled)

37 (previously presented): The system of Claim 34, whereby the persona menu application is further operative to build a data structure having data properties corresponding to person-centric data obtainable from the at least one data source prior to populating a data structure for the person name with the person-centric data.

38 (previously presented): The system of Claim 34, whereby the persona menu application is further operative:

to obtain at least one name-centric action for application to the person name;

to populate the data structure for the person name with the at least one name-centric action; and

to display the at least one name-centric action in the graphical user interface.

39 (original): The system of Claim 34, the persona menu application being further operative to provide an icon in the electronic document adjacent to the person name for selectively displaying the graphical user interface.

40 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes online/offline status for the person name.

41 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes free/busy status information for the person name.

42 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes office location information for the person name.

43 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes telephone numbers for the person name.

44 (original): The system of Claim 34, whereby the person-centric data includes information related to additional person names associated with the person name.

45 (previously presented): The system of Claim 34, whereby the at least one data source includes a contacts database.

46 (previously presented): The system of Claim 34, whereby the at least one data source includes an instant messaging database.

47 (previously presented): The system of Claim 34, whereby the at least one data source includes a distributed computing environment directory services database.

48 (previously presented): The system of Claim 34, whereby the at least one data source includes a free/busy status database.

49 (Currently amended): The system of Claim 34[[35]], whereby the unique identification includes data associated with the person name that may be used to identify the person name.

50 (original): The system of Claim 49, whereby the unique identification includes an electronic mail address for the person name.